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DOE COMPLEX WIDE ACCESS CONTROL

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The Department of Energy (DOE) is implementing an access control system that will allow DOE workers to visit other DOE sites across the nation without making special badging and access authorization arrangements. The DOE Standard Badge, which is a standard credential for identity verification and proof of security clearance, is a crucial element in this access control scheme. It will be fully implemented throughout the DOE complex by September, 1997. Complex Wide Access Control (CWAC), which uses the DOE Standard Badge, will provide the capability to electronically verify identity, clearance, and badge status, essentially in real-time, at site automated access control systems throughout the DOE complex. Implementation of complex wide access control requires a means to enroll person, clearance, badge, and biometric information in a central database accessible to authorized users. This information may then be retrieved to make access control decisions or to verify identity, clearance, or badge information.

A project to demonstrate the viability of CWAC is nearing completion. Interface standards have been established between CWAC enrollment stations and site access controls systems, and the central database to which they will connect. This central database is called the Visitor Access Data Base (VADB), and it will be the repository for person, clearance, badge and biometrics information. After the VADB becomes operational in February 1997, a CWAC enrollment/verification station will be activated at a DOE site to enroll personnel in VADB. The ability for these personnel to access security areas using an automated access control system communicating with VADB will then be demonstrated at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL). As visitors attempt entry into LLNL security areas and swipe their standard badge through a reader, the LLNL Argus system will request person, clearance, badge, and biometrics information from VADB, and use this information to make entry control decisions.

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